

# STATE REGULATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

## **CANDIDATES FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

**NOTICE:** The information requested herein is needed to assist the Committee in its investigation of candidates for the Public Service Commission. This questionnaire is the initial step in the investigation of your candidacy. A completed questionnaire should be returned to the Committee as soon as possible, but in any event no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 8, 2010. (Use and attach separate sheets, if necessary.)

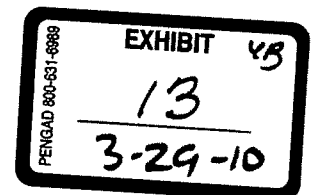
**PLEASE SPECIFY THE SEAT FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING (THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN WHICH YOU RESIDE):** -

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1. Full Name: Mr.  
Ms. Nikiya "Nikki" Michelle Hall

Home Address: 5003 Holmes Avenue  
Columbia, SC 29203

Business Address: PO Box 192  
Columbia, SC 29202



2. Date of Birth: 1979
6. List each institution of higher learning you attended, including dates of attendance and degrees awarded. Please provide an official transcript no later than the date of your screening hearing. If you left any institution without receiving a degree, state the reason for leaving.  
Spelman College, August 1997- December 2000  
Georgetown University Law Center, August 2001-May 2004
7. List any continuing education courses or other professional education or training programs that you have attended in the past five years.  
May 2005 Bridge the Gap (South Carolina Bar)  
August 2006 SC Solicitors Conference (South Carolina Solicitors Association)  
November 2006 Discovery Seminar (South Carolina Solicitors Association)  
March 2007 Legislative Update (South Carolina Court Administration)  
March 2007 Orientation School for Magistrates (South Carolina Court Administration)

October 2007 Mandatory School for Magistrates (South Carolina Court Administration)  
March 2008 Legislative Update (South Carolina Court Administration)  
July 2008 Intensive Training for Magistrates (South Carolina Summary Court Judges Association)  
October 2008 Mandatory School for Magistrates (South Carolina Court Administration)  
March 2009 Legislative Update (South Carolina Court Administration)  
June 2009 Trial Academy  
August 2009 Intensive Training for Magistrates (South Carolina Court Administration)  
October 2009 Mandatory School for Magistrates (South Carolina Court Administration)

8. Have you been employed or held any position in any of the following areas?

- ☐ (a) energy issues
- ☐ (b) telecommunications issues
- ☐ (c) consumer protection and advocacy issues
- ☐ (d) water and wastewater issues
- ☐ (e) finance, economics, and statistics
- ☐ (f) accounting
- ☐ (g) engineering
- ☒ (h) law

Please provide the duration of your employment or service and details about the nature of the work or the position.

I have worked in various capacities in the law for the past five years. Presently and for the past three years, I have worked as a magistrate in Richland County. I work as a Magistrate at Central Court and I share the duties of our centralized court system with two other judges. I am responsible for ruling on both criminal and civil matters and my decisions are subject to appeal to the Circuit Court. I am responsible for maintaining the most current knowledge about changes in the law and I do so by reviewing the advance sheets and legal articles. I am often expected to make decisions instantly. I must maintain impartiality when ruling and I make sound decisions based on the applicable law. I preside over jury trials and rule on pre-trial motions. I draft jury charges. I maintain decorum and order in a courtroom where intensity can escalate quickly. I also attend continuing legal education consistently to maintain my bar license and as a magistrate.

12. Please list in chronological order any employment of you by any governmental agency (whether full time or part time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise). Provide dates of employment, name of employer, name of supervisor, and major job responsibilities.

August 2004- August 2005, Law Clerk, South Carolina Judicial Department, Honorable L. Casey Manning

Performed research assist in rulings on both civil and criminal trials and hearings. Drafted orders and opinions. Coordinated office schedule.

August 2005-January 2007, Assistant Solicitor, Richland County, Richard Cathcart

Prosecuted non-violent felonies. Managed caseload of over three hundred cases. Prepared cases for disposition through either trial or guilty plea. Handled appeals from Magistrate Court. Second seated trials of violent felonies including armed robbery and murder.

January 2007-Present, Magistrate, Richland County, Chief Justice Jean Toal

Preside over criminal and civil matters including preliminary hearings, bond hearings, criminal domestic violence hearings, jury trials (civil and criminal) and traffic court. Rule on motions, research case law and monitor updates in the law. I am also responsible for the policies and procedures at bond court.

30. List all professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you have held in such groups.

South Carolina Bar Association

Georgia Bar Association

South Carolina Summary Court Judges Association

31. List all civic, charitable, religious, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five (5) years.

Brookland Foundation, Board Member

Eau Claire Development Corporation, Board Member

Spelman College Alumnae Association, Columbia Chapter, Secretary

32. State any other information which may reflect positively or negatively on you, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for a position on the Public Service Commission.

I am extremely resourceful and industrious. As a magistrate, I have garnered much experience in maintaining impartiality in extremely sensitive situations. I am a self starter and I am organized.

My experience as a judge gives me familiarity with the quasi-judicial nature of the Commission. I am comfortable with the Canons that the Commission is bound by and I have become well versed in avoiding situations which may violate them.

As a magistrate, I have contact with the public that members of higher courts are insulated from. I think that exposure gives me valuable insight and compassion for consumers.

I am not an industry insider and I think that will bring a fresh view to decisions made by the Commission.

33. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons, including your banker, from whom references could be required. Also, furnish this Committee with letters of recommendation from each person listed herein.

1) The Honorable L. Casey Manning

2) The Honorable Kay Patterson

3) Ms. Allyson Carbaugh

4) Rev. Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr.

5) Ms. Felicia Smith